

## - STOP PRESS -

## NEW SOCIETY LAUNCHES at <a href="http://surname-society.org">http://surname-society.org</a>

The founder members are delighted to announce the launch of **The Surname Society** - <u>the</u> online society for individuals, groups and associations with an interest in surname studies, regardless of their location in the world, the surname they are studying, or their level of research expertise.

Focussing on single surname studies, the society meets the needs of researchers in the world of family history and genealogy as it evolves in the 21st century. The Surname Society's vision is to connect like-minded people by providing facilities which enable members to share knowledge, data and good practice with others. The society allows members to register both worldwide and limited studies and is entirely online. Collaboration is facilitated and encouraged as it is the core ethos of The Surname Society.

Surname researchers collect data relating to all name bearers, either on a global or restricted basis. The society does not mandate study methods and members are encouraged to develop their own approach to the investigation of their surname to advance their knowledge and expertise in areas such as etymology, DNA, name collection and family reconstruction. **The Surname Society** will help and advise inexperienced members on ways to conduct their study and how to avoid the pitfalls which can occur!

A truly global organisation from the outset, the committee members are located around the world from Australia to England, Spain and Canada and in the first week since its announcement to those who completed the online questionnaire, the society has **almost one hundred** new and enthusiastic members.

The cost of membership to **The Surname Society** is just £5 per annum with no hidden extras. You can register as many names as you want on either a restricted or worldwide basis, collaborate with others, share in the educational opportunities offered and a plethora of resources in the Members' area of the website including a fascinating quarterly e-newsletter and the **School** of **Surnames**, with many other developments in the pipeline in due course.

So, what are you waiting for? Take a look at the website and if you are interested, join!